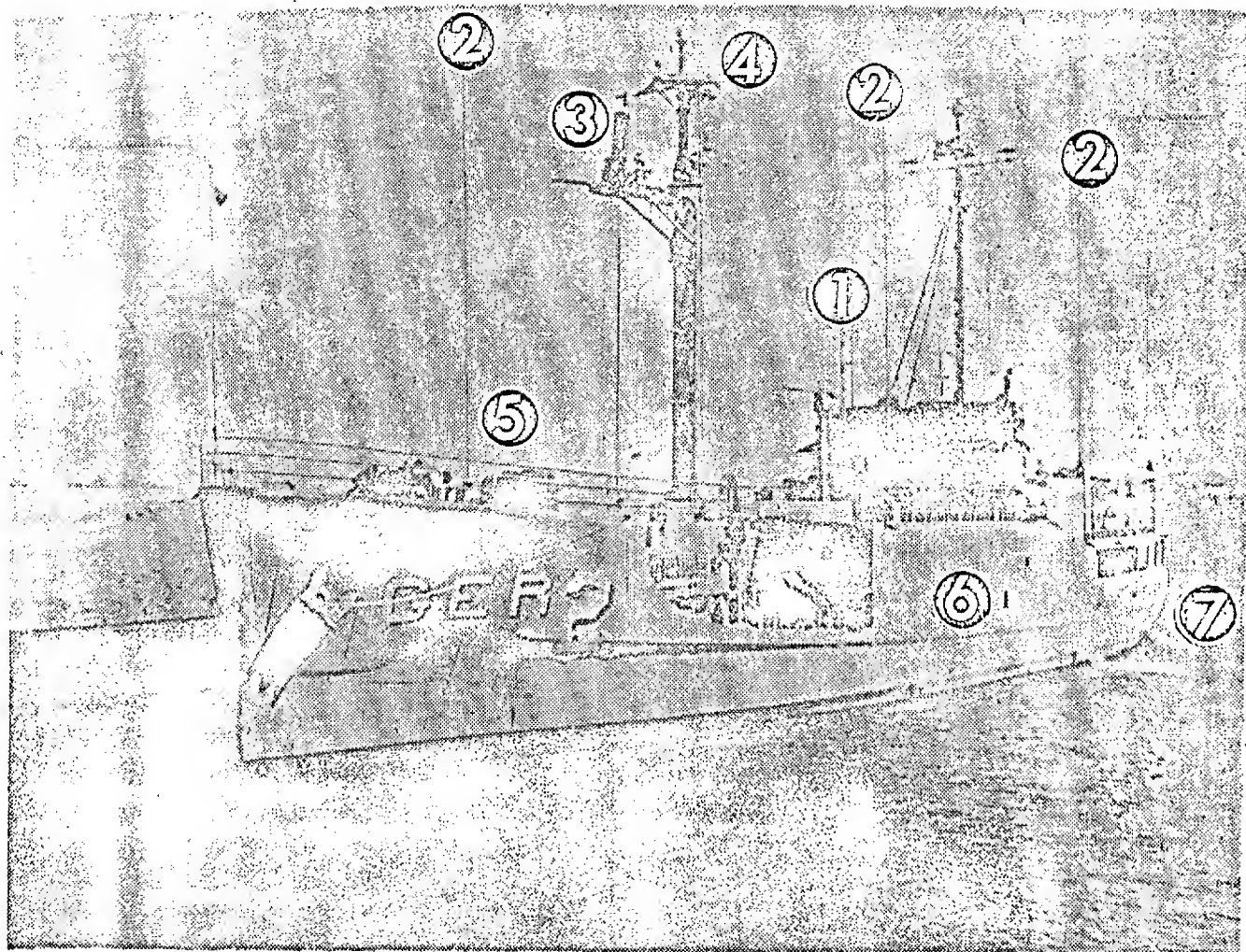


JAN 24 1968



An official Navy picture of the USS Pueblo. Numbers (explained below) locate the vessel's special equipment.

The USS Pueblo—An Intelligence Ship

The USS Pueblo, one of a large fleet of American intelligence-gathering ships, carries millions of dollars worth of secret electronic equipment. Its electronic gear enables the crew to listen to land, sea and air communications within its surveillance range.

Intercepted communications are recorded on tapes that go ultimately to Washington where experts try to fit them into a world-wide intelligence pattern.

By capturing the Pueblo the North Koreans and other Communist powers may well learn about the latest American intelligence-ferreting techniques.

The above photograph, released by the Pentagon, shows some of the intelligence equipment that will now be available for North Korean inspection:

1—The twin antennae, called Yagis, show where signals are coming from so other equipment on the ship can focus on them.

2—The long poles appear to support cables for transmitting messages to

submerged submarines by means of low frequency radio waves that can penetrate the sea's surface to about 50 feet.

3—The radar equipment appears to be designed for bouncing signals off the troposphere. This gives the ship still another way to listen or transmit messages. This tropospheric communication technique has special advantages for eavesdropping on airplanes and their ground controllers.

4—There is a dome-shaped antenna pointing skyward at this location, barely visible in the photograph. This probably is the chief means of communicating with airplanes and eavesdropping on their conversations.

5—The Pentagon photograph shows a deck winch at this location. But this winch, left over from when the Pueblo acted as an auxiliary, probably has been removed to make room for electronic equipment such as the giant ear used on the USS Liberty, sunk by the Israelis during the Middle East war.

6—This is the logical location for tape recording equipment that records communications intercepted by the Pueblo. The area might even be sealed off from the rest of the ship—as was the case in the USS Liberty.

7—Unless the Pueblo has had its hull modified for underwater listening equipment, the ship trails a long line of hydrophones behind it as it moves through the water. The listening line is beneath the surface, dragged down by a planing device, and has weighted hydrophones hanging from it like a crabber's trot line.

Each ship makes a distinctive sound underwater, called its signature by ferret specialists. These signatures are fed into a computer by U.S. intelligence experts for ready comparison to signals recorded by ferret ships on station.

If the Pueblo had such underwater detection equipment, and it most likely did, it could listen to ships passing by for 50 miles around.